



November 21, 1968

Joshua Lederberg, M.D.
Department of Genetics
Stanford Medical School
Stanford, California

Dear Joshua:


Please excuse this delay in replying to your note on the association of abortion, premature delivery, and oral contraception.

The information presented by Colonel Peterson of Andrews Air Force Base is still considered preliminary by him. He is currently expanding his review and expects to have more comprehensive data from a group of cooperating hospitals by the early part of next year. I invited him to visit us during February or March and present his findings at that time.

As far as the effects of oral contraceptives on chromosomes are concerned, we have no systematic studies in progress but have had one proposal. A copy of this proposal*is attached. I would appreciate very much your opinion on this study and whether we should sponsor studies of this type.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,



Ben Z. Taber, M.D.
Medical Director

Enclosure:
63915

* Melnyk

INSTITUTE OF CLINICAL MEDICINE
G. BOOST, M.D.
FEB 19 1968
received _____
replied _____

63815

Proposal of Research Project

Title of Project: The Effects of Contraceptive Pills on Chromosomes

Co-Investigators: Boyd Cooper, M.D.
Obstetrician and Gynecologist
Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital, and
Muir Medical Center
Los Angeles, California

John Melnyk, Ph.D., Cytogeneticist
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
U.S.C. School of Medicine
Director, Cytogenetic Section
Children's Hospital of Los Angeles

2-19-68